

IN THE
INDIANA TAX COURT

NO.49T10-9309-TA-70

TOWN OF ST. JOHN, <i>et al.</i> ,)
)
Petitioners,)
)
v.)
)
DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT)
FINANCE as successor to the)
STATE BOARD OF TAX)
COMMISSIONERS,)
)
Respondents.)

MONTHLY REPORT 21

As successor to the State Board of Tax Commissioners, this is the Department of Local Government Finance's (I! hereafter DLGFI!) twenty-first monthly report under the Court's order dated May 31,2000,729 N.E.2d 242,247. The report explains the DLGF's activities during February 2002 to implement the Court's order. An outline of the Board's activities is included as Exhibit A.

Lake County Reassessment

The DLGF attempted to get Lake County officials' cooperation in the implementation of the Lake County reassessment under P. L. 151-200 I. The county has not yet paid invoices presented for payment under Ind. Code § 6-1.1-4-36, which requires

all costs of the contract to be paid from the county's reassessment fund. During February, the DLGF filed a Motion To Join Parties Necessary To Comply With The Court's Judgment and subsequently filed a Motion For Prompt Hearing And For Order Regarding Lake County Reassessment seeking this Court's assistance to see that its order for the reassessment of property in Indiana be enforced. A hearing is scheduled on these motions for March 4, 2002.

Arthur Anderson provided a detailed work plan for the reassessment of Lake County. The DLGF reviewed previous drafts, made changes and approved the work plan as presented on March 1, 2002.

Computer Software

Manatron, a computer software vendor, presented both of their software packages for testing certification: ProVal, which they state currently is in use in 59 counties, and Manatron software, which they state currently is in use in 11 counties. A decision regarding preliminary certification is pending.

Two other software vendors, Appraisal Research (1 county) and Plexis (16 counties), have demonstrated their software packages but have not presented their packages for testing and certification. Innovative Data Systems (2 counties) has not contacted the DLGF as yet regarding certification plans.

County Survey

The DLGF compiled results from its February 2002 survey of county and township assessors on the progress and status of the reassessment on a county-by-county basis. A summary is attached. The DLGF is taking action to address counties' concerns

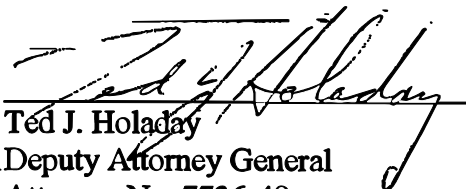
about software issues and to assist counties that appear to be behind schedule in reassessment.

Proposed Rule For Equalization

A proposed equalization rule was published in the March Indiana Register. A copy of the proposed rule is attached to this report. A public hearing is scheduled for March 25, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,

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